

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:

a) a first substrate for adapted to support ~~supporting~~ the back of the patient's head;

b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck and wherein the second substrate defines an aperture with a reversible closure adapted to receive a tracheal tube imbedded in the patient without contacting the tracheal tube; and

c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the third substrate is adapted to contact ~~contacts~~ the patient's chest.

4. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein the first substrate defines an aperture to facilitate access to the patient's cervical spine area.

5. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein the first substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are integrally molded to each other.

- 1 6. (Currently Amended) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a
2 patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate adapted to support ~~for supporting~~ the back of the patient's
4 head;
5 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
6 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
7 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
8 third substrate is adapted to contact ~~contacts~~ the patient's chest; and
9 d) a fourth substrate adapted to contact the top of the head and removably
10 attached to the first substrate and the second substrate.

- 1 7. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein the first
2 substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are transparent.

- 1 8. (Currently Amended) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a
2 patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate adapted to support ~~for supporting~~ the back of the patient's
4 head wherein said first substrate is in slidable communication with a
5 pliable material adapted to contact an occipital skull region of the patient;
6 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
7 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck; and
8 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
9 third substrate is adapted to contact ~~contacts~~ the patient's chest.

- 1 9. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 further comprising an
2 arcuate-shaped substrate in pivotal communication with said second substrate
3 whereby the arcuate-shaped substrate is adapted to receive the patient's chin.
- 1 10. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein said first
2 substrate allows visual inspection of the patient's ears.
- 1 11. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein said third
2 substrate is adapted to extend ~~extends~~ at least as low as the patient's second rib.
- 1 12. (Currently Amended) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a
2 patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate adapted to support ~~for supporting~~ the back of the patient's
4 head;
5 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
6 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
7 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
8 third substrate is adapted to contact ~~contacts~~ the patient's chest; and
9 d) one or more means for removably securing the device to a backboard
10 wherein the securing means comprises an elongated substrate having a first end
11 attached to the first substrate of the device and a second end adapted to be
12 removably fastened to the backboard.
- 1 13. (Original) The device as recited in claim 12 wherein the second end terminates in
2 a geometric shape that is matingly received by a surface supported by the
3 backboard.
- 1 14. (Original) The device as recited in claim 13 wherein the surface is removably

2 attached to the backboard.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein at least one
2 substrate comprises cushioning materials.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 wherein at least one
2 substrate comprises one or more tubes.

1 17. (Original) The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines
2 an angle with respect to the second substrate and wherein the device further
3 comprises means to adjust said angle.

1 18. (Original) The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines
2 a distance with respect to the first substrate and wherein the device further
3 comprises means to adjust said distance.

1 19. (Cancelled)

1 20. (Currently Amended) A device for simultaneously immobilizing a person's skull,
2 cervical vertebrae, and mandible, the device comprising:

3 a) a first substrate which is adapted to extend ~~extends~~ from an occipital
4 region of the skull to the first thoracic vertebrae of the person;

5 b) a second substrate communicating with the first substrate and extending
6 in a direction anterior to the person, whereby the second substrate is
7 adapted to encircle ~~encircles~~ the neck of the person and wherein the
8 second substrate defines an aperture having a removable continuous
9 periphery; and

10 c) a means for immobilizing the first and second substrates to a backboard.

1 21. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 3 further comprising one or
2 more means for removably securing the device to a backboard.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 21 wherein the securing
2 means comprises an elongated substrate having a first end attached to the first
3 substrate of the device and a second end adapted to be removably fastened to
4 the backboard.